



REMARKS

INDEPENDENT CLAIMS 1 AND 17 HAVE BEEN AMENDED TO PLACE ALL THE CLAIMS IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE

The Examiner rejected independent claims 1 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) in view of Kari '491. Both independent claims have been amended to cure the rejection.

Claim 1 has been amended to add the limitation an endflag indicator of allowed dependent claim 3. The addition of this allowable claim limitation places independent Claim 1 in condition for allowance. Because Claim 1 is placed in allowable condition, all dependent claims (2-10) are likewise allowable.

Claim 17 has been amended to add the limitation of an acknowledgment message containing a data element for indicating an abnormal condition in the configuration action transmitted in response to receipt of a configuration message. The amended language makes this claim allowable for the same reason as claim 11 (e.g. the claimed acknowledgement message). The cited Kari '491 does not teach, suggest, or teach an acknowledgement message with a data element for indicating abnormal conditions in a configuration action. Because Claim 17 is placed in allowable condition, all dependent claims (18-21) are likewise allowable.

Applicant believes the amendments place claims 1-2 and 4-21 (claim 3 is canceled) in condition for allowance. Independent Claims 1 and 17 are believed to be allowable because, as amended, Kari '491 does not teach, suggest, or disclose the claimed limitations. Since the dependent claims add further limitations to the limitations of the allowable independent claims, the Applicant believes the dependent claims are

likewise allowable and that the amended independent claims render the § 103(a) rejections as moot.

II. CONCLUSION

The Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application because the Examiner's 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) and § 102(e) rejections are believed to have been traversed by the present Response. Pending claims 1-2, and 4-21 are believed allowable because the claimed invention is not disclosed, taught, or suggested by the cited references.

It is believed that no additional fees are necessary for this filing. If additional fees are required for filing this response, then the appropriate fees should be deducted from D. Scott Hemingway's Deposit Account No. 501,270.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Malcolm W. Pipes".

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AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Figures 4 and 5 have been amended to correspond to the original drawings filed with the patent application. The directional arrows for elements 412, 413, 512, and 513 have been reversed. A corrected replacement sheet is being filed herewith.